

FEDERAL WOMAN'S AWARD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairman:

Hon. Barbara Bates Gunderson
*Commissioner
U. S. Civil Service Commission*

Vice Chairman:

Robert W. Hartley
*Vice President
The Brookings Institution*

MEMBERS

Hon. Bertha S. Adkins
*Under Secretary of Health,
Education and Welfare*

Frederick C. Belen
*Chief Counsel and Staff Director
Committee on Post Office
and Civil Service
House of Representatives*

Raymond T. Bowman
*Assistant Director for
Statistical Standards
Bureau of the Budget*

H. William Brawley
*Executive Director
Committee on Post Office
and Civil Service
United States Senate*

Alfred Friendly
*Managing Editor
The Washington Post
and Times Herald*

Hon. Kathryn E. Granahan
House of Representatives

Hon. Eugene J. Lyons
*Special Assistant to
the President for
Personnel Management
The White House*

Miss Miriam Ottenberg
The Evening Star

Hon. Ralph S. Roberts
*Administrative
Assistant Secretary
Department of Agriculture*

Hon. Rocco C. Siciliano
Wilkinson, Cragun and Barker

WITH THE
COOPERATION OF
Woodward & Lothrop
WASHINGTON, D. C.

News Release

ADVANCE FOR MONDAY MORNING NEWSPAPERS
NOT TO BE USED BY PRESS, RADIO, OR TV
BEFORE 6:30 P.M., E.S.T., SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 12, 1961

The six Government career women who will receive the first annual Federal Woman's Award were announced today by the Federal Woman's Award Board of Trustees. The women selected for this top honor represent high achievement in the fields of astrophysics, economics, foreign policy, medical research, penology, and transportation. They were chosen for their outstanding contributions to the quality and efficiency of the career service of the Federal Government, for their influence on major Government programs, and for personal qualities of dedication, integrity, judgment, and leadership.

The recipients of the Award are:

Dr. Beatrice Aitchison, Director of Transportation
Research, Bureau of Transportation, Post Office Department

Miss Ruth Elizabeth Bacon, Chargé d'Affairs, American
Embassy, Wellington, New Zealand; Department of State

Miss Nina Kinsella, Warden, Federal Reformatory for
Women, Alderson, W. Va.; Department of Justice

Dr. Charlotte Moore Sitterly, Physicist, National Bureau
of Standards, Department of Commerce

Mrs. Aryness Joy Wickens, Economic Advisor to the
Secretary, Department of Labor

Dr. Rosalyn S. Yalow, Principal Scientist, Radioisotope
Service, Bronx Veterans Administration Hospital, New York.

They will receive the Award at a banquet in their honor on February 24 at the Statler-Hilton Hotel in Washington, D. C., which will be attended by the heads of their agencies, the 5 judges who selected them from among 74 career women nominated by Federal agency heads, the members of the Board of Trustees, and the public.

This is the first Government-wide award to be established exclusively for the purpose of honoring career women in the Federal Government. In announcing the winners, Civil Service Commissioner Barbara Bates Gunderson, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, said: "These are distinguished women and public servants worthy of the respect and admiration of every American. The story of their contributions to the vital work of Government is an inspiring record of the highest type of public service."

- 2 -

Specific citations and biographical facts on each Award winner follow:

Dr. Beatrice Aitchison, Director of Transportation Research, Bureau of Transportation, Post Office Department, for "outstanding leadership in research and training in the field of modern transportation economics and traffic management." Dr. Aitchison has a B. A. degree from Goucher College, M.A. degrees in mathematics and economics, respectively, from Johns Hopkins University and the University of Oregon, and a Ph.D. degree in mathematics from Johns Hopkins University. She has received many scholastic and professional honors. After several years of university teaching, she began her Government career in the Interstate Commerce Commission, and was Director, Transport Economics Division, Office of Transportation, Department of Commerce, from 1951 to 1953. Dr. Aitchison was appointed Director of Transportation Research, Post Office Department, in 1953. She has served as a regular lecturer at the annual Air Institute and the Institute of Industrial Transportation and Traffic Management at American University, and as a lecturer at the Advanced Traffic Management Courses of the United States Army Transportation School, Fort Eustis, Va.

Miss Ruth Elizabeth Bacon, Foreign Service Officer, Department of State; Chargé d'Affairs, American Embassy, Wellington, New Zealand, for "outstanding contributions to the formulation and maintenance of United States foreign policy in the field of Far Eastern Affairs." Miss Bacon received her B.A. and Ph.D. degrees in government, with major in international law, from Radcliffe College. She began her career with the Department of State in 1939, and over a period of 17 years held many highly responsible posts in the Departmental Service. She became a recognized authority on Far Eastern affairs, particularly matters concerning Korea and China, and on international organizations. Miss Bacon worked on United Nations matters from the inception of the Organization. Beginning in 1946, her responsibility was that of adviser for the Far Eastern Bureau on United Nations matters. She has also served on a number of missions on behalf of the Department of State. She entered the Foreign Service in 1956 as a Class 2 Officer, and was promoted to Class 1 in March 1960, making her the second-highest ranking woman in the Foreign Service. Assigned to Wellington as Deputy Chief of Mission, Miss Bacon has recently been made Chargé d'Affairs.

Miss Nina Kinsella, Warden, Federal Reformatory for Women, Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, for "her leadership and influence in raising standards of correctional treatment and her accomplishments in equipping persons to lead useful and productive lives." Miss Kinsella attended Boston University and is a graduate of Saint Mary's Educational Institute, Salem, Mass. On the basis of her work as Head of Administrative Affairs, Department of Corrections, State of Massachusetts, she was appointed Executive Assistant to the first Director of the Bureau of Prisons when the Bureau was created in 1930. In that position she established service-wide administrative procedures, and standards for non-Federal institutions confining Federal offenders. In 1949 Miss Kinsella was appointed Warden of the Federal Reformatory for Women at Alderson, W. Va., the only institution operated by the Federal Government for the confinement of women convicted of criminal offenses, where she has had outstanding success in developing and strengthening programs of rehabilitation. Many representatives of foreign countries ask to visit Alderson for first-hand observation of its organization and correctional programs.

Dr. Charlotte Moore Sitterly, Physicist, National Bureau of Standards, Department of Commerce, for "outstanding scientific achievement in the fields of atomic spectroscopy and astrophysics." Dr. Sitterly is a graduate of Swarthmore College and received her Ph.D. degree from the University of California. Her Federal

- 3 -

career began in 1945 when she joined the staff of the National Bureau of Standards after several years in research work at the Princeton University Observatory. Her work in the Bureau's spectroscopy laboratory has included analysis of atomic spectra, compilation of data on atomic energy levels, interpretations of the solar spectrum, and the discovery of the element technetium in the sun. Dr. Sitterly is an Associate of the Royal Astronomical Society of Great Britain, the first woman to receive this distinction which is awarded by the Society to distinguished foreign astronomers and astrophysicists. She is a member of the American Astronomical Society and several other professional organizations.

Mrs. Aryness Joy Wickens, Economic Advisor to the Secretary, Department of Labor, for "outstanding technical and administrative skill in initiating, organizing, and directing wholly new and enormous statistical programs." Mrs. Wickens received her B.A. degree in sociology and economics from the University of Washington and her M.A. in economics from the University of Chicago. She has been in the Federal service continuously since 1928, serving with the Federal Reserve Board, the National Emergency Council, and the Central Statistical Board, prior to joining the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics in 1938 as Assistant to the Commissioner. In 1940 she was made Chief of the Division of Prices and Cost of Living, directing all the work done in these areas during the war for the Office of Price Administration; between 1945 and 1958 she was successively Assistant Commissioner for Program Operations, Deputy Commissioner of Labor Statistics, and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Manpower. She has held her present position as Economic Advisor to the Secretary of Labor since 1958. Mrs. Wickens has served as economic advisor to United States Government delegations to numerous international conferences. She is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and in 1952 became its first woman president.

Dr. Rosalyn S. Yalow, Radiological Physicist and Principal Scientist, Radioisotope Service, Veterans Administration Hospital, Bronx, New York, for "outstanding professional achievements in the field of medical research employing radioisotopes." Dr. Yalow is a graduate of Hunter College and received her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in physics from the University of Illinois. She has been Assistant and Instructor in Physics at the University of Illinois and Lecturer and Assistant Professor in Physics at Hunter College. Her work as a physicist in radioisotopes at the Bronx Veterans Administration Hospital has been continuous since 1947. At that Hospital Dr. Yalow established, and has been responsible for the scientific direction of, the Veterans Administration's first radioisotope laboratory, which has achieved an international reputation. She has trained many research physicians and medical scientists. Dr. Yalow has been President of the New York Hospital Physicists, is currently Vice-Chairman of the Executive Board of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine, and is a member of numerous professional and honorary societies. At 39, she is the youngest recipient of the first Federal Woman's Award.

The panel of judges that made the final selections for the Award consisted of Erwin D. Canham, editor of the Christian Science Monitor, chairman; Honorable Frances Perkins, the first American woman Cabinet Officer and former Civil Service Commissioner; George Romney, President of American Motors Corporation; Bruce Gould, editor-publisher of the Ladies Home Journal; and David Brinkley, news commentator, the National Broadcasting Company.

#